

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 SS-15 AID-20 DEAE-00 INR-10

IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 AGR-20 /144 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/MEX:CPTORREY:MRG

X-22415 8/29/73

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

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DEA:SHANLEY

S/NM:H.WELLMAN

CUSTOMS:DICKERSON

ARA:G.LISTER

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R 292255Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

S E C R E T STATE 172542

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA

REF: MEXICO 6311; STATE 164097

1. THE STG IS IN FULL ACCORD WITH AMBASSADOR HAVING FLEXIBILITY IN MAKING HIS APPROACH TO ECHEVERRIA. IT IS HOPED THAT INITIAL IMPACT OF AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION WILL EXCITE ECHEVERRIA'S INTEREST TO THE POINT THAT HE WILL TAKE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN FOLLOWING UP ON THE PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, SECOND MEETING WITH ECHEVERRIA IS NOT IMPERATIVE IF THE FIRST MEETING GIVES SUFFICIENT IMPETUS TO GREATER GOM EFFORTS.

2. THE TACTICAL APPROACH TO ECHEVERRIA IS LEFT TO THE JUDGEMENT OF THE AMBASSADOR. AS SUGGESTED, RECOGNITION

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OF RECENT GOM ANTI-NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES WOULD BE USEFUL

INITIAL LEAD-IN TO MAIN POINT TO BE STRESSED THAT BOTH GOM AND USG MUST MAKE GREATER EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE ILLICIT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TO SUPPRESS ILLICIT TRADE.

3. STG AGREES THAT THE LONG DELAYED SAN ANTONIO MEETING SHOULD BE HELD AT AN EARLY DATE. IT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME WHEN THE CABINET LEVEL CCINC MEETING WILL BE HELD. EMBASSY MAY THEREFORE WISH TO PROPOSE DATE FOR SAN ANTONIO MEETING.

4. EMBASSY WILL BE INFORMED AS SOON AS DECISION IS MADE ON THE TIMING OF THE TRILATERAL ATTORNEYS GENERAL MEETING.

5. AMBASSADOR'S QUESTIONS CONCERNING EXPANSION OF "PLAN CANADOR" (PARA. 6 REFTEL) AND REWARDS PROGRAM (PARA. 7 REFTEL) WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL.

6. PARAGRAPH 3B OF STATE 164097 REFERS TO GREATER USE OF MEXICAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO LOCATION OF POPPY FIELDS. THE STG BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD ALSO BE MOST USEFUL IN THE TOTAL ANTI-NARCOTIC EFFORT IF THE MEXICAN ARMY COULD BECOME INVOLVED ACTIVELY IN THE DISRUPTION OF THE WELL-ESTABLISHED OPIUM MARKETING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE RURAL AREAS. THE LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF FJP AGENTS AND THE LOGISTICAL AND OTHER PROBLEMS INHERENT IN THEIR OPERATION IN THE MORE ISOLATED AREAS LEAD THE STG TO BELIEVE THAT THE MEXICAN ARMY IS THE BEST EQUIPPED ENTITY TO INTERRUPT OPIUM TRADE BETWEEN GROWER AND LABORATORY. THE STG REALIZES THAT GOM MAY HAVE INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS WHY IT WOULD NOT WANT THE ARMY MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THIS TYPE OF OPERATION. HOWEVER, IF THE AMBASSADOR SEES NO OBJECTION IN DOING SO, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT HE BROACH THIS SUBJECT IN HIS MEETING WITH ECHEVERRIA. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE172542
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CPTORREY:MRG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SHLAUDEMAN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973087/aaaaaeyy.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MEXICO 6311; STATE 164097
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by smithrj>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA
TAGS: SNAR, MX
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005